

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/718,136	HASHI ET AL.	
	Examiner Natalia Figueroa	Art Unit 2651	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to pre-amendment (20 November 2003).

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 8-20.

3. The drawings filed on 20 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.

4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 11/20/03, 09/03/04
- 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
- 5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- 7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- 8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- 9. Other _____.

Art Unit: 2651

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 20 November 2003 (11/20/2003) is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.
2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 03 September 2004 (09/03/2004) is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 8-20 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

RE claim 8, the prior art of record, and in particular Hashi et al (USPN 6,665,133), fails to teach or suggest a method of manufacturing a master-information-recorded magnetic disk, the method including a defect detecting step for detecting defects in a disk, wherein after the defect detecting step has confirmed that one of a number of defects on the surface of a cleaning disk and a size of the defects on the surface of the cleaning disk is not greater than a predetermined value, the cleaning disk is brought into close contact and separated from the magnetic transfer master a predetermined number of times, before the magnetic transfer master is brought into close contact with the magnetic disk and magnetic transfer is performed.

RE claim 9, the prior art of record, and in particular Hashi et al (USPN 6,665,133), fails

to teach or suggest a method of manufacturing a master-information-recorded magnetic disk, the method including a defect detecting step for detecting defects in a disk, wherein after a cleaning disk has been brought into close contact and separated from the magnetic transfer master a predetermined number of times, the magnetic transfer master is brought into close contact with a detection disk, the detection disk having been subjected to the defect detecting step to confirm, for a surface of the detection disk that comes into contact with the magnetic transfer master, that one of a number of defects and a size of the defects is not greater than a predetermined value, and the detection disk is then subjected to the defect detecting step and when the defect detecting step confirms that that one of a number of defects on a surface and a size of the defects is not greater than a predetermined value, the magnetic disk and the magnetic transfer master are brought into close contact and magnetic transfer is performed.

RE claim 10, the prior art of record, and in particular Hashi et al (USPN 6,665,133), fails to teach or suggest a method of manufacturing a master-information-recorded magnetic disk, the method including a defect detecting step for detecting defects in a disk, the magnetic transfer master is brought into close contact and separated from a cleaning disk a predetermined number of times, the cleaning disk having been subjected to the defect detecting step to confirm, for a surface of the cleaning disk that comes into contact with the magnetic transfer master, that one of a number of defects and a size of the defects is not greater than a predetermined value, the magnetic transfer master is then brought into close contact with a detection disk, the detection disk having been subjected to the defect detecting step to confirm, for a surface of the detection disk that comes into contact with the magnetic transfer master, that one of a number of defects and a size of the defects is not greater than a predetermined value, and the detection disk is then

Art Unit: 2651

subjected to the defect detecting step and when the defect detecting step confirms that that one of a number of defects on a surface and a size of the defects is not greater than a predetermined value, the magnetic disk and the magnetic transfer master are brought into close contact and magnetic transfer is performed.

RE claim 11, the prior art of record, and in particular Hashi et al (USPN 6,665,133), fails to teach or suggest a method of manufacturing a master-information-recorded magnetic disk, the method including a defect detecting step for detecting defects in a disk, wherein after the pattern of the magnetic film on the magnetic transfer master has been magnetically transferred onto the magnetic disk, the magnetic disk is subjected to the defect detecting step, and when one of the number of defects and size of defects is equal or greater than a predetermined value, the magnetic transfer master is brought into close contact with and separated from a cleaning disk a predetermined number of times.

RE claim 20, the prior art of record, and in particular Hashi et al (USPN 6,665,133), fails to teach or suggest an apparatus comprising defect detecting means for detecting defects on a surface of a disk, wherein after a surface of a cleaning disk is inspected by the defect detecting means and the defect detecting means has confirmed that one of a number of defects on the surface of the magnetic disk and a size of the defects on the surface of the magnetic disk is not greater than a predetermined value, the cleaning disk is brought into close contact and separated from the magnetic transfer master a predetermined number of times, the magnetic transfer master is brought into close contact with the magnetic disk by the pressing means, and the external magnetic field is applied by the magnetic field applying means, so that the pattern corresponding

Art Unit: 2651

to the information signals is magnetically transferred onto the magnetic disk as a magnetized pattern.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following document is cited to further show the state of the art with respect to magnetic transfer.

Ikeda et al (USPN 6,731,446): Discloses a magnetic transfer device and method, it is of record that the date is not appropriate.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Natalia Figueroa whose telephone number is (703) 305-1260. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 8:30-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh N. Tran can be reached on (703) 305-4040. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2651

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



SINH TRAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

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